

Today's News - Tuesday, February 19, 2008

A look at Prince Charles's influence on U.K.'s development scene (and a Q&A with the man himself). -- Farrelly finds the Prince might be right on some counts - when grand visions turn into "a blaze of global nothingness." -- King bemoans the still in-limbo lots of Octavia Boulevard because "nobody's shy about gumming up the works if he doesn't get what he wants." -- Ouroussoff on Cruz bringing lessons from Tijuana to a Hudson Valley town: "a bold antidote to the depressing model of ersatz small-town America." -- The city of Brno may tap Kaplický as architecture advisor. -- Meanwhile, Prague still debates his library while making plans to raze a plain for culture. -- Princeton unveils big, green plans. -- An international shortlist for Birmingham New Street station (winner better have "real flair"). -- Design for new Wellington Airport to reflect the rocky coast (or is it a "giant hobbit house"?). -- Some good advice re: the legal uncertainties of green design. -- Kamin is mostly thumbs-up for new, very green synagogue that "fuses the structural, the sustainable and the spiritual into a powerful whole." -- Massive green rehab for Deutsche Bank HQ in Frankfurt. -- Former uranium foundry going for LEED Gold. -- Ethiopia taps original architect ("traced by chance" via the Internet) to restore its National Palace. -- How business can save the world. -- A photonics engineer is lighting up the world. -- Call for entries: Reinventing Brooklyn's Grand Army Plaza. -- [Note to US subscribers who took a holiday yesterday: we did post the newsletter - click on "Yesterday's News."] — EDITORS NOTE: ArchNewsNow celebrates its 6th anniversary this week...here's to many more!

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[Ignore prince's latest agenda at your peril: Love him or hate him, since the Prince of Wales first showed an interest in architecture in the early 1980s he has been a big influence on the development scene: Prince and the revolution: Q&A with Prince Charles \[link\]](#)- Property Week (UK)

[Applying soul to cities is a hit and miss affair: This question of how to dwell creatively with history...has long troubled the aesthetic mind...if there is an answer, it hovers, tantalising, just out of reach. Prince Charles's case...is evidence-heavy...new precincts repeatedly drift from grand vision to trackless void, where a city's distinctive flavour vanishes in a blaze of global nothingness. By Elizabeth Farrelly- Sydney Morning Herald](#)

[Larger agendas stall city's best-laid plans: If you want to see what's wrong with planning in San Francisco...take a stroll down Octavia Boulevard...Those fenced-off lots are in limbo - victims of a larger process in which everyone has his own utopian demands, and nobody's shy about gumming up the works if he doesn't get what he wants. By John King -- Envelope A+D; Stanley Saitowitz; Build Inc.- San Francisco Chronicle](#)

[Learning From Tijuana: Hudson, N.Y., Considers Different Housing Model: If you doubt that the derelict shantytowns of Tijuana, Mexico, could work as a template for redevelopment in a quaint, upscale town in the Hudson River Valley, you're probably underestimating Teddy Cruz. By Nicolai Ouroussoff \[slide show\]- New York Times](#)

[Kaplický may become Brno's architecture adviser: In defending his National Library \(NK\) project in Prague, he becomes a politician, he said, adding that during his talks in Brno he felt like an architect -- Future Systems- Prague Daily Monitor](#)

[Prague City Hall eyes houses on Letná plain: ...the question of the construction of a new National Library building should first be settled...According to the plans...two new buildings would dominate...an archaeological museum \[and\] a modern concert hall. -- Jan Kaplický/Future Systems- Prague Daily Monitor](#)

[Princeton unveils most comprehensive campus plan in its history. ...focused on maintaining a "walkable" campus that grows with a goal of environmentally sustainable development...as the campus plans for more than 2 million gross square feet of construction by 2016. -- Beyer Blinder Belle; Michael Van Valkenburgh; Architecture Research Office \(ARO\); Two Twelve Associates; Hopkins Architects; Frank Gehry; Steven Holl \[links\]- News @ Princeton](#)

[Shortlist of architects for Birmingham New Street station: ...whoever was appointed concept architect would have to demonstrate "real flair" and be able to work alongside Atkins and BDP. -- Foreign Office Architects \(FOA\); Rafael Viñoly Architects; CRAB Studio; IDOM UK; LAB architecture studio; UN Studio- Birmingham Mail \(UK\)](#)

[Wellington Airport unveils radical new design: Some have likened it to a giant hobbit house, others giant pumpkins - the airport and its architects say it is supposed to resemble the rocks of Wellington's rugged south coast. -- Studio Pacific Architecture; Warren and Mahoney \[image, video link\]- TV3 \(New Zealand\)](#)

[Green designs open up legal uncertainties: The architecture profession's rush to embrace the LEED program has altered the expectations of the building owner...An architect's projections of](#)

[future performance could be construed as a warranty or guarantee for the building if the owner relied on those representations.](#)- Springfield Business Journal (Missouri)

[Structure blends spirituality and sustainability: Designers aim for greenest synagogue in America: This adventurous synagogue doesn't match the aesthetic standard set by the great Spertus building, but at its best, it fuses the structural, the sustainable and the spiritual into a powerful whole.](#) By Blair Kamin – Carol Ross Barney- Chicago Tribune

[Deutsche Bank starts Europe's biggest green office refurb: Work starts on £150m scheme to slash power and CO2 emissions by more than half at Frankfurt headquarters](#) -- Mario Bellini- Building (UK)

[Cleanup site going for green award: Officials at the Fernald Preserve are going for the gold in seeking "green" building status at the former uranium foundry...will apply \[for\] LEED "gold" rating for the visitors center.](#) -- glaserworks- Cincinnati Enquirer

[Ethiopia National Palace calls original architect for remodeling: Francesco Saverio Antilici...who created the Palace's interior and supervised the construction of the Jubilee Palace in 1972...was traced by chance...through the Internet and invited to come to Addis Ababa...](#) Nazret.com (Ethiopia)

[How business can save the world: A provocative study suggests that enlightened management philosophies can spread from the office -- and change societies.](#) - Boston Globe

[Light up the World: tens of thousands benefit from pioneering solar project...thanks to Scots-Canadian photonics engineer Dave Irvine-Halliday](#) - Gizmag (Australia)

[Call for entries: Reinventing Grand Army Plaza, New York City, Ideas Competition; cash prizes; deadline: April 25-](#) Design Trust for Public Space

[INSIGHT: Transit-Oriented Design: An Evolution from Societal Convenience to Environmental Solution: TOD is the model for what multi-family housing will look like in the years ahead.](#) By John Burcher, AIA- ArchNewsNow

-- Pugh + Scarpa: Brad Pitt / Make It Right, Lower 9th Ward, New Orleans
-- PTW + CCDI + ARUP: Watercube, National Aquatics Center, Beijing

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